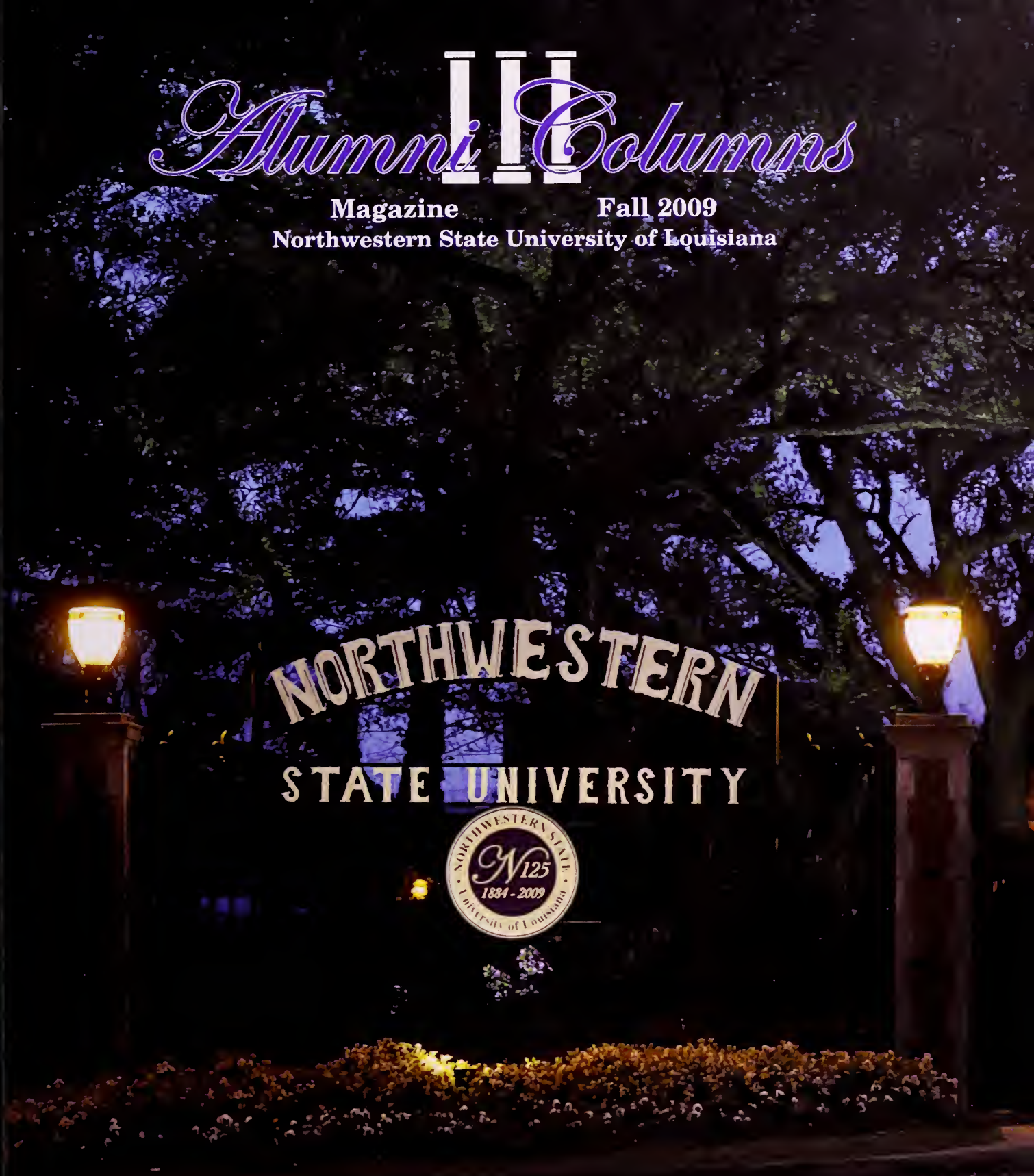
Alumni Columns

Magazine Fall 2009

Northwestern State University of Louisiana



Excellence

YESTERDAY, TODAY & TOMORROW

Dr. Randall J. Webb, 1965, 1966

President, Northwestern State University

Dear Alumni:

I like to take every opportunity I can to talk about the outstanding work done by our faculty and staff. We are fortunate to have so many dedicated people who are willing to look for new ways to serve our students as well as those in elementary and secondary schools.

Northwestern has undertaken a number of initiatives to work with students and teachers in grades K-12 to improve the quality of education. Candidates and faculty from the College of Education actively observe, participate and work in public schools. In 2008-2009, undergraduate candidates worked in 118 schools doing everything from observation to whole class instruction. Faculty also volunteered in multiple schools monitoring and assisting school personnel with LEAP and i-LEAP testing.

Educational psychology students are working with the community organization CASA to assist children who have been removed from their homes. Elementary education students are working in Family Math Nights at two local schools providing instructional games for families to reinforce mathematics concepts learned in the classroom. Counseling students are creating cyber-bullying curriculum materials to help counselors in their schools.

I am very encouraged about the prospects for the Project Lead the Way program in which Northwestern will be the affiliate university for Louisiana. Project Lead The Way is a non-profit organization that helps public middle schools and high schools implement pre-engineering and biomedical courses. The program helps students learn about technology careers through project-based learning that integrates math, science, language arts and technology standards. We hope the program will help train today's young students to be productive in domestic and global workforce markets and attract high tech industry to Louisiana.

This type of outreach work strengthens the communities we serve in Louisiana and makes the state and university stronger. I commend all the faculty, staff and students at Northwestern who work each day to create opportunities for others.

William Drake Owens, 2004, 2005

Acting Director of Alumni and Development

Dear Fellow Alumni and Friends:

We have a very exciting school year ahead as we celebrate NSU's 125th anniversary. We want to thank those of you who have told us what NSU means to you and encourage more of you to send in your memories. We will post them on our website and may publish yours in the next issue of the Alumni Columns.

We are sending this issue to you a little early so you can make plans to join us for Homecoming on October 24th. We have many special events planned around Homecoming to commemorate this anniversary. You will find a full schedule of events in this issue.

Finally, we had a wonderful time seeing so many of you at the Fais Do-Do in June! Not only did it serve as the official kickoff to our 125th Anniversary year, but we also announced the public phase of our capital campaign, "Excellence: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow." Collectively, we can make a big difference in the future of our alma mater and its students. The office of Alumni & Development is here to help you with any questions or interests you have in this new campaign. Your contribution, no matter how small, will make a big difference in the lives of students.

See you at Homecoming!

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Natchitoches, 1969, 1971
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Benton, 1992
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Natchitoches, 2004, 2005

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Dr. Leonard A. Williams	New Orleans, 1993

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE
Kayla Wingfield.....Opelousas
SGA President

Publisher
W. Drake Owens, 2004, 2005

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Leah Pilcher Jackson, 1994

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Amy Werner

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Gary Hardamon

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NSU Press Publications Office

Northwestern State University is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097 Telephone number 404-679-4501) to award Associate, Baccalaureate, Master's, Specialist and Doctorate degrees.

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Excellence
YESTERDAY, TODAY & TOMORROW

Northwestern State University initiates "Excellence: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow" Capital Campaign

In the fall of 2007, Northwestern State University celebrated the success of its first ever Capital Fundraising Campaign entitled: "For a Brighter Tomorrow," exceeding the $18.84 million goal by raising over $32.7 million! Funds raised during this campaign established endowed chairs, professorships, program enhancement funds and scholarships that have enhanced the overall quality of the institution.

"Funding is critical not only to attracting and retaining bright students who face rising costs in higher education but also in attracting excellent faculty and assisting dedicated educators with costs associated with research and professional development," explained Director of Alumni & Development Drake Owens.

In order to keep NSU moving forward, Northwestern has launched a new capital campaign, "Excellence: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow," with the goal of securing $25 million over the next three years. During this summer's 125th anniversary Fais Do-Do Celebration, the public phase was announced to nearly 400 attendees. Campaign Chair John Manno told the audience that an astounding $9.5 million dollars had been raised during the silent phase of the campaign. These funds were generated through privately funded grants secured by NSU's faculty and staff, mineral royalties from land gifted to NSU and contributions from more than 3,400 alumni and supporters. Their contributions accounted for more than 50 percent of the funds raised in the silent phase!

During his kick off speech, Manno gave a special thanks to those who have shown their support to NSU during the silent phase of the campaign and stated that "if 3,400 of our alumni contributed over $4.5 million during the silent phase of the campaign, imagine the possibilities if Northwestern received financial support from all of its 80,000 alumni. We plan to reach out to as many alumni as possible asking for their support, but we hope that each alumnus will evaluate what they can do individually and support their alma mater during this important time."

Capital Campaign Chairman John Manno urged alumni and friends to pledge as little as $12.50 per month to the Excellence Fund.

"Every dollar counts," Manno said. "No contribution is too small. Our most immediate need is unrestricted scholarship dollars."

To meet this need and provide a convenient and affordable way to contribute to the campaign, NSU has established the "Excellence Fund" which asks every alumnus of Northwestern to become a member of the "Excellence Team" by donating $12.50 or more per month for the length of the campaign.

"If every alumnus could contribute at this level or greater we would raise over $36 million, exceeding our campaign goal and setting a fundraising record for

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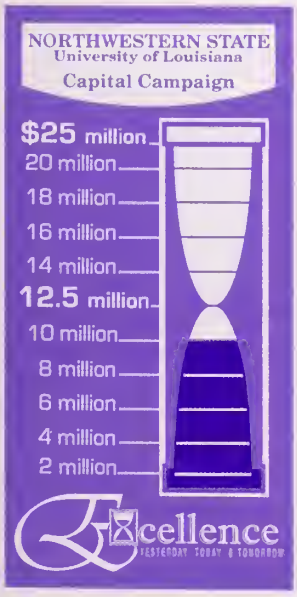

Capital campaign continued

President Webb welcomed guests to the summer Fais Do-Do.

Northwestern," Manno said, showing his optimism by closing his speech with reiterating the goal of raising a commemorative $12.5 million by the end of the 125th anniversary year.

"Contributing to the Excellence Fund is one of many ways to support the campaign," Owens said. Support can be as simple as purchasing a 125th anniversary coffee table book or commemorative brick in the Alumni Plaza or joining the Alumni Association, Athletic Association or President's Council which provide unrestricted support to the university, he said. Contributions can be made by adding to one of the more than 400 existing scholarships, professorships and program endowments. Naming opportunities are available to those interested in establishing endowed scholarships, professorships, chairs and program enhancement funds, many of which are eligible for matches from the Board of Regents support fund, adding to up to 40 percent of the contribution.

"We are also available to assist someone interested in leaving part of their estate to NSU," Owens said. "Our staff is always willing to help you decide on the way to give that best fits your lifestyle."

To make it easy for alumni to help commemorate the year by donating to the Campaign, the alumni website, www.northwesternalumni.com, accepts online donations. These secure transactions come directly to the NSU Foundation, and donors receive the added benefit of a tax deduction on their 2009 taxes.

"We think our alumni will want to help mark this very special year in NSU's history," said Owens. "By contributing to the 'Excellence: Yesterday, Today & Tomorrow' Capital Campaign we can all make a difference to preserve the quality of our education at our institution and uphold the traditions that we all hold so dear."

Guests at the summer Fais Do-Do enjoyed delicious regional cuisine, dancing and joie de vivre.

NSU 125 picture book takes readers down memory lane

The 200 page coffee table book that commemorates Northwestern State University's 125th anniversary is now available to the public. The NSU Office of Alumni and Development is accepting new orders for the limited edition book.

The publication features hundreds of color and black and white photographs from the university archives and a 30 page text highlighting memorable people, events and achievements in the school's rich history. There is also a chronology in the book of significant occasions and milestones at the university since it was established in 1884.

Entitled "Northwestern at 125: Commemorative Edition, 1884-2009," the book includes sections on academics, student life, athletics and campus sites and scenes. The publication's photos and manuscript focus on many of the unique traditions, customs and rituals that have been such an important part of the university over the decades.

Editors of "NSU 125" were, from left, Tom Whitehead, Jerry Pierce, Don Sepulvado and Steve Horton.

Northwestern was established in 1884 as the State Normal School, and the first class was enrolled in 1885. The book was published by the NSU Press to initiate the year-long anniversary celebration.

Introductory remarks on the cover of the publication state that the book was published "as a tribute to the 75,000 alumni of Normal and Northwestern and teachers, coaches, administrators and friends" who are a part of the university's heritage.

The introduction also notes, "In this keepsake publication are reminders of hundreds of people, places and events that should stir memories of their alma mater for Northwestern alumni across the world and reinforce their bonds to this historic old school."

Editors of the book are Northwestern Vice-President for External Affairs Jerry Pierce; Associate Provost and Dean of the Graduate School Dr. Steve Horton; Director of NSU Press and Informational Services Don Sepulvado and retired Professor Emeritus of Journalism Tom Whitehead.

Pierce wrote the 30 page text for the publication in addition to the introduction on the book jacket, wording for division pages and much of the chronology section on major events in NSU history. Sepulvado was the graphic designer and coordinated selection and

continued on page 3

2009 "125th Anniversary" Homecoming Schedule

Reunions, commemorations and new traditions are on tap for this year's celebration

October 22-24

Alumni Art Show
Orville Hanchey Gallery will host the Fourth Annual Alumni Art Exhibition, this year dedicated to the memory of Mr. Fleming Arden Thomas, NSU Alumnus, past Director of the Watson Library, and dedicated art lover who was instrumental in the recent restoration of a Conrad Albrizzo painting that is part of the permanent collection of NSU. The Albrizzo work plus other important works owned by the University will be on display. Admission is free to the public. For more information, please call Leslie Gruesbeck at (318) 352-5476 or email at gruesbeckl@nsula.edu.

Friday, October 23

Alumni Association Board Meeting
10:00 a.m. at the Red River Waterway Commission Building on the Highway 1 Bypass directly across the street from the Mariner's Restaurant. Annual Board of Directors meeting open to the public.

Homecoming Golf Tournament
1:00 p.m. – NSU Recreation Complex
Come participate in the annual golf scramble on the 18-hole golf course for $50 per player (includes golf cart and lunch by Coach Gene Knecht). Tee time is at 1:00 p.m. and lunch will be served at 12:00 p.m. Reservations can be made by calling Drake Owens at (318) 357-4250 or email at owensd@nsula.edu.

NSU Foundation Board Meeting
1:30 p.m. at the Red River Waterway Commission Building on the Highway 1 Bypass directly across the street from the Mariner's Restaurant. Annual Board of Directors meeting open to the public.

NSU Presidents Residence Open House
4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Stop by the newly renovated Arnold Kilpatrick Presidents Residence to be greeted by Dr. and Mrs. Randall Webb, tour the home and enjoy refreshments.

Long Purple Line Reunion
6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. – Orville Hanchey Gallery
All Long Purple Line Inductees are invited to a reception in their honor. For more information contact the Alumni Center at (318) 357-4414. *By Invitation only.*

Greek Alumni Reunion
7:00 - 9:00 p.m. – Student Union Ballroom
Join the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life in celebrating 80 years of Greek Life at Northwestern State. All Greek Alumni are invited to attend a welcoming reception to reconnect with old friends as well as a chance to see how Greek Life has grown over the years. For more information contact Natalie Laurence, Director of Fraternity and Sorority Life, at (318) 357-5439 or email at laurencen@nsula.edu

Saturday, October 24

Homecoming 5k Fun Run
7:00 a.m. – Wellness, Recreation & Activities Center (WRAC)
All alumni & supporters of NSU are invited to a special 5k fun run through the NSU Campus. $10 entry fee includes t-shirt and prizes for winners.

College of Education Reunion
10:00 a.m. – Natchitoches Event Center
All graduates of the College of Education are invited to a reunion that will honor the inductees of the College's Hall of Distinguished Educators. For more information, contact the College of Education at (318) 357-6288.

Black Alumni Alliance (BAA) Meeting
10:00 a.m. – Natchitoches Events Center
All NSU alumni interested in becoming members of the organization are invited to join the organization for its inaugural meeting. For more information visit www.nsureunion.com or contact Nicole Gray at (972) 897-5357.

College of Business Brunch
10:00 a.m. – Natchitoches Room, Russell Hall
All College of Business alumni are invited to renew old friendships before the game. For more information, call the College of Business at (318) 357-5161.

ROTC Open House
10:00 a.m. – James A. Noe Military Science Building
All ROTC alumni are invited to stop by the hospitality room at the James A. Noe Military Science building between 10:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. For more information, please contact Christie Price at (318) 357-5157 or by email at pricec@nsula.edu.

University Bookstore Open
10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. – Student Union
Go by the bookstore and buy all of your NSU memorabilia!

N-Club Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony
9:00 a.m. – Magale Recital Hall
For more information, please call Gil Gilson at (318) 677-3141 or email at Gilson@nsula.edu.

125th Anniversary Homecoming Luncheon
11:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. – Natchitoches Events Center
All alumni and supporters of NSU are invited to join us for a special 125th Anniversary Homecoming Luncheon. Social hour from 11:30 to 12:30 followed by a surf and turf lunch and University address. Tickets are $20 and can be purchased by contacting the NSU Alumni Center at (318) 357-4414. Please RSVP by October 19th.

Homecoming Parade
3:00 p.m. – Campus/Town Annual Homecoming Parade for both the Northwestern and Natchitoches communities. Begins at Prather Coliseum and ends on NSU Practice Field with a Pep Rally held following the parade at approx. 4:30 p.m.

Pep Rally
4:30 p.m. – NSU Practice Field/Tailgating Area
Join NSU President Randy Webb, Coach Bradley Dale Peveto and all of our Homecoming Honorees for special pep rally and recognition ceremony packed with entertainment from our NSU spirit groups.

Tailgating Activities
4:00 - 6:30 p.m. – Tailgating Field adjacent to Turpin Stadium. Various groups, including Greek Organizations, N-Club, ROTC, College of Education and many more!

Alumni Tailgating
4:00 - 6:30 p.m. – Tailgating Field
The NSU Alumni Association and Student Alumni Association (SAA) will be hosting a special barbeque dinner. Plates will be sold for $5. All NSU Alumni and SAA members are invited to come by the tent and grab something to eat before the game. It will be a great time to visit with friends you haven't seen in a while and build relationships among fellow alumni.

Pregame Reception for Homecoming Court
5:00 p.m. (approx.) – Stroud Room in the Athletic Fieldhouse
For more information, please call Yonna Pasch at (318) 357-5438 or email paschy@nsula.edu.
By invitation only.

Pregame Activities
6:30 p.m. - Turpin Stadium
Enjoy the pre-game show by the Spirit of Northwestern Marching Band and other game day activities.

Homecoming Game vs. Texas State
7:00 p.m. – Turpin Stadium

Halftime Ceremonies
8:30 p.m. (approx.) – Turpin Stadium

BAA Homecoming After Party
9:00 p.m. Natchitoches Events Center
All Alumni are invited to a complimentary buffet featuring entertainment from Q1065's D.J. Incredible. For more information visit www.nsureunion.com or contact Nicole Gray at (972) 897-5357.

Please check with your organization to verify times and locations or go online to ***www.northwesternalumni.com/homecoming2009*** *for the most up-to-date schedule.*

▸ N125 book continued

placement of photographs, and Horton and Whitehead directed research, planning and editing of the publication.

NSU alumnus Raymond Strother, a nationally renowned political analyst and author, said, "Bands should play at the publication of this commemorative book. This is a book not of words and pictures but of hope, reflection, progress and pride. It's all here. All the reader has to do is sit quietly and go through the pages while history reveals itself."

Books are $50 each, plus shipping and processing, and may be ordered from the NSU Office of Alumni and Development by phone at (318) 357-4414 or go to www.northwesternalumni.com/book.

Ceremonial Mace and Chain debut at Spring 2009 commencement

On the occasion of the 125th anniversary of Northwestern, two new symbols of solemnity and dignity have been added to the usual academic regalia used during commencement, the President's Chain and the Mace.

Faculty Senate President Dr. Darrell Fry bore the Mace as President Dr. Randall J. Webb wore the President's Chain during May commencement.

The President's Chain holds the seal of the university cast in bronze. Around the black satin ribbon holding the seal are 17 engraved platelets of bronze, each bearing the name of a former president of Northwestern and the years he served. Chains of similar design have been worn for centuries during ceremonies at universities. This chain is unique in recognizing the leaders who have served Northwestern while most others are original works of art.

The President's Chain was presented to Dr. Randall Webb by the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi to commemorate the university's commitment to academic excellence for the past 125 years.

The Mace is a wooden staff designed and manufactured by Natchitoches craftsman George Olivier of Olivier's Fine Cypress Furniture. Crowning the top is a four-faceted block that bears casts of the four seals of the University's history, the State Normal School, Louisiana State Normal College, Northwestern State College and Northwestern State University of Louisiana.

The Mace originated as a weapon in the Middle Ages, used as a hand arm for archers and other unmounted warriors. Sergeants at arms, who were guards of kings and other high officials, also carried maces. Gradually the mace gained a ceremonial character and became a symbol to denote authority.

The Mace Bearer is the president of the university's Faculty Senate. The ceremonial mace symbolizes the dignity and authority of the university.

Potpourri @ 100 yearbook event draws former editors, contributors

Former editors of Potpourri were recognized during the Potpourri @ 100 celebration in May. Editors and the years they served were, front row from left, Frank Hudson, Jr., 1960; Dorothy Wallen Eielson, 1961; Dr. Steve Horton, 1987, 1988; Tina Dutile Drye, 1989, 1990; Janice Williams, 1984; Betty Jo Tilleux, 1957; Marie Tilleux Davis, 1952; Christine Harper Bloxom, 2004; Jimmy Brown, 2006, and Bethany Frank, 2009, 2010. On the second row are Paula Crover Schneyer, 1997, and Van Rodney Reed, 1991. On the back row are Kevin Brough, 1998; Heath Crawford, 1999; Jim McKellar, 1982; Patsy L. Black, 1977; Dr. Lawrence Houston Davis, 1953, and Ronald Martin, 1951.

The Natchitoches Coffee Club has been meeting nearly 20 years to discuss current issues, solve problems, tell jokes and support each other. On the front row from left are Truman Maynard, Dan Simmons, Peyton Cunningham, John Ropp, Gene Knecht, Wilder Lindsey, Johnnie Emmons and Sam Coker. On the back row are Tom Burns, Dan Dyess, Fred Clark, Dick Stalling, Jim Bruning, Walter Ledet, Sonny Fuller, Norman Hicks, Norm Fletcher and Alton Townsend.

Coffee group's daily gatherings keep members young at heart

Sports, politics, current events and tall tales are up for discussion every morning for the Natchitoches Coffee Club, an informal group of about 30 mostly retired gentlemen who gather week mornings to swap whoppers, weigh in on the news of the day and discuss whatever is on their minds, be it health, horse racing, local history or legislative issues.

"When you retire, you better have something to do, something to look forward to every day. This is it," said Walter Ledet, 90, who started the group 19 years ago after retiring from a long career as a coach and administrator at NSU. "It's the best way to start the day."

After meeting at an area hotel restaurant for many years, the group recently relocated to Merci Beaucoup by welcoming proprietor Johnny Wayne Cox to the group. Beginning around 8 a.m., they enjoy coffee, conversation and a joke or two for half an hour or so, flipping quarters to determine who pays the tab.

"The day starts on a positive note because the group is so positive," said Sam Coker, 80, a retired educator spinning yarns with the Coffee Club for 15 years.

"We have biscuits with sausage or bacon almost every Wednesday and a speaker," Ledet said. Guests might include Sheriff Victor Jones, Clerk of Court Louie Bernard or NSU coaches. The group visits the Natchitoches Parish Detention Center twice a year and every fall is invited by NSU President Dr. and Mrs. Randall J. Webb to breakfast at the Arnold R. Kilpatrick President's Home. The late Dr. Kilpatrick was a member of the group. Valentine's Day is Ladies' Day when members treat their wives to lunch, welcoming widows of deceased members to join them.

Good humor and friendship are a large part of the camaraderie within the Coffee Club, as well as sharing past experiences and supporting each other through crises related to health or family. Many who gather with the group have some affiliation with Northwestern, but that is not a requirement with retirees from backgrounds in business, the military, law and education. Ledet said the average number to attend on any given day is about 10, but Wednesdays draw a bigger crowd. Anyone interested in friendship and conversation is welcome.

Sonny Fuller, 76, looks forward each day to good friends, good laughter and good coffee. "We also enjoy helping when and where needed at NSU," he said.

Judy Stewart Scholarship will benefit math education major

A family with ties to Winn Parish has established a scholarship at Northwestern State University to recognize a mother's commitment to education. The Judy Stewart Scholarship will be presented to an NSU student who graduated from a Winn Parish high school and is seeking a degree in mathematics education. The scholarship was established through the NSU Foundation by Judy Stewart's husband, Bart Stewart Sr., and their children, Candy Begnaud, Bart Stewart Jr. and Jeff Stewart.

The scholarship recipient must be a sophomore or higher and maintain a 3.0 or better grade point average.

"We would like the recipient to be active in their church, as my wife first realized she would like to teach middle school while teaching Sunday school to this age group during her college days," said Bart Stewart Sr., of Broussard.

Judy Stewart graduated from NSU in 1976 with a degree in math education.

"She commuted from Winnfield to Natchitoches every day for several years, had two babies along the way and has taught for almost 29 years in the Louisiana public school system," Mr. Stewart said. During her career, Mrs. Stewart taught in Jeff Davis, Winn, Catahoula, Evangeline, St. Martin, Lafayette and Livingston parishes.

Mr. Stewart and his brother, Bill Stewart, previously established a scholarship at NSU to honor their mother, Billie Nell Barton Stewart.

Golden Jubilee/50-Plus Events

Joining the festivities for the Golden Jubilee were, from left Sam DeKeyzer (1950), Dot DeKeyzer (1951), Ted Duggan (1957), Dave Moody (1959), Bonnie Corley (1960) and Ken Corley (1958), left photo; Michael Murphy (1959), Darlene Hicks (1958), John Hicks (1959) and Pat Robertson Murphy (1960), center photo; and Gene Haynes (1959), Jean Downing (1954) and Lady Jane Patton (1959) right photo.

Billy John Burns (1953, 1958) of Bossier City presented a copy of his book "One Last Stroll Down Memory Lane: An Autobiography of Billy John Burns" to NSU President Dr. Randall J. Webb during the 50-year luncheon in May. The memoir shares Burns' memories from his early years, including a lengthy passage on his experiences at Northwestern. The book is available through Amazon.com.

Tom (1947) and Juanita (1945) Bambrick, who had just celebrated their 66th wedding anniversary May 8, were present for the 50-year reception.

Guests at the 50-Plus Luncheon were Beverly Horton Weaver (1959) and Philip Weaver, left photo; Danny Higdon (1959) and Jerry Roy (1959), center photo, and Mary Dunckelman Rabb (1959), Truman (1959) and Martha Maynard, Ethelyn Scroggins Millar (1959), and John Millar, right photo.

New Orleans

Joining the fun for a New Orleans reception were Craig (1993) and Josie Tappel (1994) and Cindy & Gus Bazin (1971), right photo; Dudley (1955) and Jean (1954) Downing, Jean Noble Warren (1955) and Wes Jackson (1954), center photo, and Gus (1971) and Cindy Bazin and Mona and Russell (1940) Bond, right photo.

Washington, D.C.

Washington, D.C., alumni who gathered for a crawfish boil were, from left, Pirom Surinal (1988), Gregg Jolley (1988), Allen Haines (1988), Candace Basco Alamilla (1990) and Eddie Alamilla (1988).

Alumni GATHERINGS

Houston, Texas

Attending a gathering in Houston, Texas were Anne and Byrne (1948) Wilson, left photo; Jill Parker Bankston (1997), Brett Harris (1991) and Debi Cost (1995), center photos; and Tara Lewis (1999) and Francina Hollingsworth (1999).

Lafayette

An alumni gathering in Lafayette was held at Blue Dog Cafe in June. Attending were BJ Duplantis (2002, 2005), Clint Loggins (1999) and John Windham (2003), left photo; Lyn Hargrave (1966, 1968), Shirley Dickie (1968) and Shelley Dickie (1968) center photo, and Robert (1950) and Dot (1951) DeKeyzer, and Ruth and Jeff (1951, 1958) Hennessy.

Shreveport

Attending the Shreveport alumni gathering were Trey Deeds, Eva Sterling (2007) and Laci Stokes (2003), left photo; Brenda Woods (1998) and Dwight Woods (1998, 2002), center photo, and Tom Carleton (1972), Margie Carleton and Dr. Randall Webb (1965), right photo.

Chris Roper Golf Tournament

Top teams in the Chris Roper Golf Tournament were Doyle Anderson, Charlie Ingalls, Randy Robinson and Danny Nolen, top left photo; Tommy Vercher, Todd Niette, Jeff Rachal, Mike Smith and Bruce Primm, top right photo; Lawson Keppinger, Matt Loudanseager, Ashley Pettigrew, John Flynn and David Flynn, lower left, and Harrie Garcie, Coke Guy, Super Joe Beasley, Noble Chambers and Big Cat Chambers, bottom right photo.

Atlanta, Ga.

Jennifer Anderson (1991), Lori (1994, 1996) Trahan and Michael Trahan joined other Louisiana natives at the Atlanta crawfish boil. Alumni from NSU, Louisiana Tech, Centenary, UNO, ULM, McNeese and Nichols enjoyed the event.

John Espinosa (1996) attended the Atlanta crawfish boil with his family, John, Joshua and Jasmine. Not shown is Karina Espinosa. The crawfish boil was held at Duluth Festival Center in Atlanta, Ga.

Austin

Dan Medlin (1988) and his family, Lisa, Matthew and Natalie, above, attended the Austin crawfish boil, as did Rhonda (1987) and David Cartwright, below.

Dallas/Fort Worth

Stacey Lourdain (1993), Cholonda Holmes (1993), Regina Shaw (1993), Gail Prevot, Louis Prevot, Derrick Lang, Michelle Young (2000), Angela Minor, and Carlo Minor (1983) enjoyed a Cajun crawfish boil at the Dallas/Fort Worth gathering.

Sally Barden (1978), Roy Bridges, Judy Bridges (1971), Jim Randolph (1966, 1971), Todd Simmons (1990), and Rona Simmons were also present for the Dallas event.

Buddy Bonnette Golf Tournament

Top teams in the Buddy Bonnette Golf Tournament were, from left, Andrei Vige, Blake Fowler, Jennifer (1991) and Keenan Kelly (1990); John Nagle, Tammy Trichel, Francis Delony and Jack Brittain (1979), and Doug Ireland (1986), Bill Dickens, Alex Cook and Bob Austin.

To view more photos from each gathering, please visit www.northwesternalumni.com.

Why I Love NSU

Natchitoches - NSU- 1966
I Remember

I remember the honeysuckle scented nights
the warm humid winds tangling my hair
the hugh yellow moon reflecting golden balls in the still river.

I remember the clatter of cars on ageless cobblestone streets
the whistle of trains and factories
the five-o-clock chimes ringing in the dinner hour

I remember the warm sun on my face
the cool lake lapping at my toes
the taste of ripe strawberries snatches from forbidden fields.
I remember the joys, the expectations, the ambitions, the sorrows,
the disappointments, the peace and contentment.

Moments intense and so fleeting which will not come again to me
They are your gifts to each generation that passes your way
and leaves a part of their heart among the niched
cobblestones and red clay bluffs.

This is why I love NSU and Natchitoches. The college and the town changed my life and gave me a future. I met my husband on the beautiful campus and we grew to love the area. We visit as often as we can.

-- Kathryn Bergeron Hammons, 1966-69

Inductees to the 2009 Graduate N Club Hall of Fame announced

Five of Northwestern's finest athletic figures, headlined by Super Bowl starter and track All-American Al Edwards, will be enshrined in the Graduate N Club Hall of Fame during morning ceremonies at the Magale Recital Hall on Saturday, Oct. 24 during Homecoming festivities.

Also to be enshrined are baseball and football standout Steve Graf, football All-American Warren Griffith, softball great Kellie Shotwell and golf All-American Robert Konsdorf.

Edwards, a star receiver for the Demons from 1986-89, started for Buffalo as a receiver in Super Bowl XXV and also played in Super Bowl XXVI as a kick returner and receiver. He was an All-America sprinter for coach Leon Johnson's Demons on the 1987 4x100 meter relay team that finished eighth nationally.

Griffith was an All-America center as a senior in 1980 as the Demons set 33 school offensive records, including an average of 421 yards per game. He and Edwards were both named to the Top 100 Demon Players of All-Time roster for the centennial celebration of the sport at NSU in 2007.

Graf was an outfielder for the Demons from 1980-83 who advanced to the Class AA level in the Montreal Expos system. He also played safety for the NSU football team from 1981-82 and later was a graduate assistant coach on Sam Goodwin's football staff.

Shotwell still holds the Lady Demon softball career record for pitching victories (62) from 1986-89. She had a 1.41 career earned run average, which ranks third all-time, and threw 19 shutouts, tied for second all-time, for coach Rickey McCalister.

Konsdorf finished in the top 10 at the 1974 NAIA Golf Championships during his career with the Demons playing for coach Jack Hearron.

For more information, check the www.nsudemons.com website.

Intaglio print finds its way back to Northwestern

A piece of artwork created in the early 20th century in Natchitoches found its way back to Northwestern.

Don Sepulvado, director of Informational Services and the NSU Press, discovered the intaglio print while visiting St. Francisville earlier this year and, recognizing a Natchitoches scene, purchased the piece and began a search for the artist. Sepulvado identified him as Dr. Leonard Kimbrell, a 1942 graduate of Louisiana Normal College, who is now 86 and living in Portland, Ore.

"It seems that he was a contemporary of Orville Hanchey and together they would visit Melrose, where Mrs. Cammie Henry allowed them to draw," Sepulvado said. "According to Dr. Kimbrell, the print in question was the first effort at intaglio printing on the art department's new print press," Sepulvado said. "He printed several Natchitoches scenes, of which he still has about five in his possession, including the print I purchased in St. Francisville."

Intaglio is a type of printmaking in which an image is incised onto a surface, covered with ink and the excess ink is removed, leaving ink only in the incisions. A damp piece of paper is then placed on top and the plate and paper run through a printing press that, under pressure, transfers the ink to the paper. The print Sepulvado discovered depicts the Bishop Martin Museum and the corner of Trinity Episcopal Church at the corner of Second and Trudeau streets in the Natchitoches Historic District.

Kimbrell holds professor emeritus status at Portland State University, where he taught art history and eventually became department head. He has given his art history collection of more than 800 volumes on painting, sculpture and architecture and various periods of art history to the PSU Millar Library. Kimbrell, who taught at PSU from 1961-87, founded the university's art history program. While at PSU, Kimbrell was responsible for building up the art department's slide library and introducing courses in all periods of Western history, as well as Asian, African and Native American art, which he initially taught by himself. He hired most of today's art history faculty and many other faculty members as chair of the art department. His teaching covered world art, but he maintained a special interest and expertise on Northwest art and artists. Kimbrel last exhibited work on the PSU campus in 2001.

SPOTLIGHTS

Jim Henderson (1994) was chosen as chancellor of Bossier Parish Community College in May. A Shreveport native, he was among four candidates chosen following a nation-wide search, leaving his previous position as senior vice president of Career and Technical Education for the Louisiana Community and Technical College System.

Henderson joined the Louisiana Community & Technical College System in 2005 as senior vice president for Workforce and Economic Development, where he was responsible for shaping the purpose and direction of the system's work force development efforts. He provided strategic focus for the customized training and corporate services of the system's seven community colleges, two technical community colleges and the statewide Louisiana Technical College (38 campuses).

In 2006, his responsibilities increased to include operational oversight of the restructured Louisiana Technical College. In 2007, he assumed responsibility for the administration of the Carl Perkins Vocational and Technical Education Program, integrating workforce training and technical education within LCTCS.

Billy John Burns (1954, 1958) of Bossier City has published an autobiography entitled "One Last Stroll Down Memory Lane." Burns presented a copy to NSU President Dr. Randall J. Webb during the 50+ Luncheon in May, which he attended with his wife, Judith Coriell Burns. Burns earned bachelor's and master's degrees at NSU and completed Plus 30 in 1969. He taught and coached at Anacoco High School for 31 years, then moved to Calvary Baptist Academy in Shreveport, where he taught and served as principal until retirement in 2000.

Three public school teachers with ties to Northwestern were named LaSalle Parish Teachers of the Year.

Christina Taylor is a kindergarten teacher at Jena Elementary, a position she has held since December 2006. She earned her BS in early childhood education at NSU in 2006. She received her AS in general studies from the University of Louisiana at Monroe with a major in social sciences and minors in business and applied sciences in 1997.

Betsy Warrick teaches family and consumer sciences to high school students at Jena High School, a position she has held the last three years. She has a total of eight years experience in teaching. She earned a bachelor's degree at NSU and completed the graduate program in 2006.

Casie Pendas, who teaches math and science to seventh and eighth grade students at LaSalle Junior High, was also honored. She graduated from Louisiana State University in 2003 with a bachelor's in elementary education. She attended LSU-Alexandria, Louisiana College and NSU between 1996 and 2000.

The National Institute for Technology and Liberal Education (NITLE) established by the Mellon Foundation will be located at Southwestern University where **Jim Hunt (1980, 1987)** is provost and dean of faculty. Southwestern is a liberal university near Austin, Texas. NITLE is designed to encourage experimentation and adoption of new uses in technology in scholarly publishing and academe in general. It involves about 130 colleges and is spinning off to become its own organization and moving to Southwestern.

Hunt holds a master's in education and Ed.D. from Northwestern and is well-known as a teacher in Natchitoches Parish schools.

Dr. Woodrow Hood (1988) was named dean of the Shuford School of Performing Arts (music and theatre) at Catawba College. Hood joined the Catawba College in faculty in 2002 as an associate professor of theater arts and chair of that department. He was granted tenure in 2004. He earned his bachelor's degree from NSU, a master's degree from Louisiana Tech University and a doctor of philosophy degree from University of Missouri-Columbia. Prior to joining the Catawba faculty, he was an assistant professor and head of theater arts at High Point University. He has also taught at Wake Forest University and Pfeiffer University.

Catawba College in Salisbury, N.C., is a private, coeducational liberal arts college established in 1851, affiliated with the United Church of Christ.

Grady Beard

Sowell Gray Stepp & Laffitte law firm partner **Grady Beard (1983)** was named to the 2010 edition of Best Lawyers, the oldest and most respected peer-review publication in the legal profession. Beard was recognized for his practice area, compensation law.

Earlier this year, Beard was invited to join Larson's National Workers' Compensation Advisory Board as one of two representatives from South Carolina. Larson's is the leading national authority on workers' compensation law. As an advisor, Grady will apprise the national board on workers' compensation happenings in South Carolina, as well as consult on notable people in workers' compensation.

In addition, Grady has been appointed as vice chair of the Workers' Compensation Law Committee of the South Carolina Defense Trial Attorney's Association, whose mission is to promote justice, professionalism and integrity in the civil justice system by bringing together attorneys dedicated to the defense of civil actions.

"These recognitions are well-deserved," said Cal Watson, Sowell Gray Stepp & Laffitte managing partner. "Grady is very effective, and his extensive experience in worker's compensation is highly valued by his many clients. We are very proud of Grady's many accomplishments."

Located in Columbia's historic Vista district, Sowell Gray Stepp & Laffitte provides business and litigation representation in all state and federal trial and appellate courts. Founded in 1996, the firm serves clients ranging from multi-national corporations to small businesses.

Ellis (1960) and Juanita Martinez (1958, 1960) Coutee celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary June 5 with a mass and blessing and a celebration dinner in Baton Rouge. Attending were the couple's children and their spouses, grandchildren. The couple were married June 5, 1959 at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Zwolle.

Matt Barton (2001), a professor at St. Cloud State University in St. Cloud, Minn., created a feature-length documentary about the history of video games to be released in 2010. The movie is entitled "Woot! The Videogame Revolution." The movie was inspired a book, "Vintage Games," he coauthored earlier this year that explores the history of influential video games. Barton is also author of "Dungeons and Desktops," a history of computer role-playing games. Barton's focus on the history of video games is about their impact on society and demystifies suspicions about games and gamers.

An article in the July-August edition of Seattle Homes and Lifestyles magazine featured the Southern hospitality of **Bill Bailey Carter (1973)** and his partner Jamie Martin entertaining with stylish Southern flair. The In Good Taste feature described the Louisiana-style

supper and the gracious hospitality in which it was served, as well as links to recipes. To view the story, go to http://www.seattlehomesmag.com/Seattle-Homes-and-Lifestyles/July-August-2009/Southern-Hospitality/

John D. Ray (1993) was recently appointed by the Attorney General of Louisiana as Section Chief of the Workers' Compensation Section, Litigation Division of the Louisiana Department of Justice. He previously served as an Assistant Attorney General and was formerly with the New Orleans firm of Johnson, Johnson, Barrios & Yacoubian.

Bill Muse (1960) has published a book, "The Seventh Muse," a memoir of his experiences growing up in Mississippi and Louisiana as the seventh son of a minister and of his career in higher education that led to the presidency or chancellorship of three universities.

After his studies at Northwestern in 1956-60, Muse received a Ph.D. from the University of Arkansas and, subsequently, became president of the University of Akron and of Auburn University and Chancellor of East Carolina University. He was inducted in NSU's Long Purple Line in 1994.

The book includes a chapter on his years at Northwestern. Copies can be ordered from the publisher online at iuniverse.com or by phone at 1-800-288-4677 or through major bookstores.

Corwin Robinson has been tapped to fill the open assistant principal slot at Clarksville High, Clarksville, Tenn. Robinson has worked in Nashville metro schools as district discipline coordinator since 2005. He earned his master's in education from Northwestern, additional certifications in educational leadership and in special education from the University of New Orleans. In December, he expects to receive his doctorate in education administration from Walden University.

Robinson also spent years in the New Orleans public schools in several administrative capacities to include: assistant principal, instructional behavioral interventionist, and a special education teacher.

Derrick LeBlanc (1997) was named the assistant and strength and conditioning coordinator at Louisiana State University after serving a two-year stint as the defensive line coach at Missouri State. LeBlanc received his master's degree from LSU in 2002. A four-year football player at Northwestern State as a two-way lineman, he spent three seasons at Breaux Bridge High School as an assistant coach, working with the offensive and defensive lines. After his year as a graduate assistant at LSU, LeBlanc moved to Henderson (Ark.) State University, where he coached the defensive line coach from 2001 to 2004. LeBlanc was defensive line coach in 2005 at Arkansas Tech University.

LeBlanc and his wife, Niema, have one son, Dayton.

R. Derek Anderson joined the Falls Village Golf Club of Durham, N.C. as head golf professional. With more than 28 years of experience in the golf industry, Anderson began his career at East Ridge Country Club in Shreveport, where he served as an assistant golf professional. Prior to joining Falls Village Golf Club, he was an assistant golf professional at Wake Forest Country Club in Wake Forest, N.C. and the head Professional Golfers' Association of America (PGA) golf professional at Cheviot Hills Golf Club in Raleigh, N.C. A PGA member since 1988, Anderson earned a degree in business administration with a concentration in management from Northwestern. He resides in Wake Forest, N.C. with his wife.

Justin Wolfe (2004) was signed by the Barnes Rodeo Company to perform at the Gerry, N.Y., Fire Department's 65th annual PRCA rodeo in August.

The bullfighters' major job is to protect the cowboys when they are thrown from the bulls while at the same time providing entertainment for the fans.

Wolfe, a Baton Rouge native, had a full track scholarship at NSU, running the 100 meters and the 1,600 relay. He got his start in rodeo when he began riding bulls at age 15. From there he gradually moved from riding bulls to his job today of protecting the riders. He says his track speed helps a lot in staying out of the bulls' reach. This was his second trip to Gerry as he performed here in 2007.

Karen McCollister of McKinney, Texas, was selected to attend the 2009 Michelson ExxonMobil Teachers Academy at the Liberty Science Center in Jersey City, N.J., in July. The Mickelson ExxonMobile Teachers Academy provides elementary teachers tools to enhance curricula, an opportunity to network with other educators and discover innovative ways to teach math and science to students.

Dr. Ronald Byrd (1954, 1960), currently a part-time on-line instructor with Southern Arkansas University, is preparing a manuscript on Jose Marti and Abraham Lincoln that will be presented this fall at the LSUS American Studies Presidential Conference.

"I've had a long, full career and find that I am fortunate to still have my health, energy and work ethic," Byrd said. "I'm appreciative of the start that Northwestern gave me and continue to be interested in NSU as a dynamic institution." Byrd, who spent his career as a professor of science, enjoys reading, hiking the mountains, exploring and competing in senior games.

NSU President Dr. Randall J. Webb awarded an Nth Degree to former **State Budget Director Ralph Perlman** at a meeting of the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System.

Perlman served four Louisiana governors. He was state budget director from 1967 until 1988. As director his accomplishments included the development of the Office of State Group Insurance and overseeing the state's $5 million investment in the 1984 World's Fair held in New Orleans.

"Mr. Perlman's service to the state of Louisiana over the years has been extraordinary. He has served four governors in positions of authority over budgetary, financial, and fiscal affairs, which positioned him to work with key personnel at Northwestern during this period," Webb said.

In 2002, he was named special assistant to the president of the University of Louisiana System. In that role, he works with the UL System Board and staff on strategies to increase efficiency within the system.

NSU wants to hear from you!

Watch your email! As part of its assessment and improvement program, the Office of University Planning and Assessment at NSU will conduct an online survey of recent graduates. We look forward to your participation and receiving your response. For more information, please contact Roni Biscoe at (318) 357-6359 or ramirezv@nsula.edu.

Former state representative establishes scholarship for FACS

Former Louisiana State Representative Beverly Gourdon Bruce of Mansfield has made a donation from unused campaign funds to the NSU Foundation to establish a scholarship. Bruce, a 1956 graduate of NSU's Department of Family and Consumer Sciences, formerly Home Economics, and department faculty have set criteria for the award, which will be called the Rep. Beverly Bruce Leadership Award.

Students eligible for the scholarship will be juniors and seniors majoring in Family and Consumer Sciences who have excelled in the classroom and who exhibit the qualities of scholarship, leadership and strong character set forth by former Rep. Bruce, according to Dr. Patricia Pierson, head of the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences.

"We are extremely grateful to Representative Bruce for wanting to establish a scholarship for students pursuing degrees in Family and Consumer Sciences. Obviously she feels the valuable things she learned as an undergraduate assisted her in the development of professional and leadership skills and she, in turn, wanted to help future students have that same opportunity," Pierson said.

After graduating from Northwestern, Bruce taught home economics at Campti High School and Greenwood High School for six years and served as a home economist agent for LSU Cooperative Extension Service for 23 years. She served as state representative for Caddo and DeSoto Parishes for 12 years.

Beverly Bruce and Dr. Patricia Pierson, head of the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences.

Bruce received a degree in home economics education from Northwestern in 1956 and a master's degree in child development and family relations in 1964. She also did post-graduate work at Louisiana State University. Bruce has served in the Louisiana House of Representatives for over 12 years and was re-elected in 1999 and 2003 to her second and third terms without opposition. Prior to her election in 1995, she served as teacher of home economics in the public school system for nine years and as a home economist with the LSU Agricultural Center-Research and Extension Service for 23 years. She retired from her DeSoto Parish Extension position in 1996 to devote full-time service in the House of Representatives.

Natchitoches Lions Club scholarship will benefit local students

The Natchitoches Lions Club showed their support of Natchitoches youth by presenting the Northwestern State University Foundation with a $10,000 check to establish the Natchitoches Lions Club Endowed Scholarship.

"Natchitoches' youth deserve the support of local civic organizations, and Northwestern State has provided educational opportunities and professional preparation to this area for 125 years," said Michele Waskom, Natchitoches Lions president. "It's only fitting that the Natchitoches Lions Club establish a scholarship that, now and forever, will assist a local student in obtaining a college education at this great institution of higher learning."

In addition to the scholarship, the club conducts a variety of projects and events, including volunteerism for the Natchitoches Christmas Festival, with the Lions Eye Foundation, and the Lions Children's Camp. Lions Clubs International is the world's largest service club organization with nearly 1.3 million members in approximately 45,000 clubs in 202 countries and geographical areas around the world.

The Natchitoches Lion's Club has created a $1,000 scholarship to be awarded to a Natchitoches Parish student entering Northwestern State University. From left are Lion Raymond Gilbert, scholarship committee member; Dr. William Broussard, third vice president and scholarship committee chair; Lion's President Michele Waskom, NSU President Dr. Randall J. Webb, NSU Director of Alumni and Development Drake Owens and Lion Will Taylor, treasurer.

Justin, James, Nancy and Kevin Perry

Nobody watches a Demon football game more passionately than the families of the players. Perhaps no football parents in school history have watched the Spirit of Northwestern Marching Band's halftime performances more intently than James (1979) and Nancy (1980) Perry. James was a member of the NSU band during his undergraduate days from 1975-79. Their sons, Justin (2009) and Kevin, were Demon teammates the past three years. But before the brothers Perry were playing football, they were coming to Turpin Stadium with their parents, both NSU alumni, to enjoy Demon football games – and watch the band. In addition to playing in the band, James also ran track in the 100 and 200 meter dashes for the Demons from 1975-77. He met Nancy, an Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority member in the spring of 1978. She was a resident assistant in Sabine Dormitory and became a member of Purple Jackets. She earned an associate's degree in business. Now they've seen their oldest son earn his NSU degree and they had the unique thrill of watching both of their boys score touchdowns in the same game last year. Justin ran back the opening kickoff 95 yards and Kevin returned a blocked punt 17 yards as the Demons outclassed Southwestern Oklahoma 63-12. Having the shared experience of sons being teammates at their alma mater has been a rich experience, they said, but watching Justin receive his diploma in May was an emotional event. "We felt very grateful and honored," Nancy said. James works as supervisor of terminal and pipeline accounting for Citgo. He also has been a high school football official for 10 years, providing him another unique perspective as he watches Demon games. "I am watching the game, but I watch the officials, too. I can see techniques and procedures they use and it helps me improve," he said. "But yes, I get upset at calls I don't like. But now, I just hang my head instead of hollering about it." Considering his sons, he's usually able to poke out his chest and beam with pride.

Record breaking year for NSU Athletics, Demon Victory Fund

In 2008-09, the Athletic Association membership broke almost all of the previous year's records and established a new benchmark for fundraising by the Board of Directors. According to Associate Director of Athletics Dr. William Broussard, the membership established records in the several areas, including: total funding secured, up over 10 percent from 2007-08; Demon Victory Fund total funding, up over 10 percent from 2007-08; total cash contributions to the NSU Athletic Association; total Athletic Association membership; total Select 100 (donors over $1,000) membership; total gifts in kind, up over 12 percent from 2007-08; total licensing royalties; and Board of Directors fundraising.

Director of Athletics Greg Burke said the significant increases in all areas are the result of increased donor education regarding contribution options, increased public relations efforts, and a concerted effort among faithful contributors to maintain the NSU Athletic Department's continued excellence in athletics, academics, and community service.

"Athletic Association members gave through personal donations and through their businesses at levels that are unprecedented in the history of NSU Athletics. That they have done so in a time where the global economy has undergone such turmoil and the university's budget has been reduced so substantially is absolutely crucial to the continued growth of the department. With this funding, we are able to provide a first-class NCAA Division I experience to Demon and Lady Demon student-athletes, to the faculty, staff, students, and alumni of NSU, and to the City of Natchitoches," said Burke.

Broussard was particularly grateful to members of the Athletic Association Board of Directors, who were challenged at the beginning of the year to help raise over $100,000 in support for the Association. In total, the Board of Directors, comprised of 21 volunteers, led by President Donald Horton (Coushatta), who assist with fundraising efforts and recruit new members, attained $186,300 in cash contributions, pledges to the endowed scholarship fund, and corporate sponsorships.

Broussard and director of marketing and promotions Ryan Holloway collaborated to develop an approach to annual fundraising that highlighted key areas of development, starting the DVF annual fund drive in May, VIP Football ticket sales in the summer, October DVF membership drive to coincide with Courtside Basketball sales, and corporate sponsorship renewal and recruitment in the late spring.

"The effect of the rebranding campaign/logo redesign and new website were tremendous in informing current and potential supporters about events that interested them and also in showing appreciation to them for their contributions," said Holloway.

"On behalf of the NSU Athletic Association and its Board of Directors, I'd like to thank every Athletic Association member for their support of NSU Athletics. I constantly opine about how generous the people of the City of Natchitoches and NSU's alumni are, and these new records are hard evidence of that testament," said Broussard.

For more information about making a contribution to the NSU Athletic Association or Demon Victory Fund, please contact Broussard at 318 357-4295 or at broussardw@nsula.edu via e-mail.

Alumni Updates

1939
Eula Bess Durham Mitchell is a retired teacher and lives in Shreveport.

1940
Marietta Firment Guedry is retired and lives in Moreauville.

1941
Laverne B. Brown Jackson is retired and lives in Jonesville.

1942
Leonard Buell Kimbrell is a professor at Portland State University, married and lives in Portland, Ore.

Winifred Hilliard Owens is retired and lives in Bossier City.

1943
Willie Edna Tarbutton is a retired teacher and lives in West Monroe.

1946
Mamie Hanna Sterkx is retired and lives in Alexandria.

1949
Johnnie Mae Campbell Palmer is a retired teacher, married to Edward C. Palmer ('49) and lives in Leesville.

Betty Joe Davis Bruce is a retired social worker and lives in Calhoun.

Jerry E. Wise is the owner and publisher of the Cameron Parish Pilot and DeQuincy News. He is married and lives in DeQuincy

1953
Lawrence H. Davis is employed by NSU Shreveport campus as a math professor, married to Clarice Marie Tilleux Davis ('53) and lives in Grand Cane.

Clarice Marie Tilleux Davis is retired, married and lives in Grand Cane.

1955
W. F. Whitford is retired, married to Frankie B. Whitford ('58) and lives in Baton Rouge.

1957
Martha Elizabeth Bozeman Griffith is a retired teacher and lives in Belmont.

1961
E. Theron Overland is self employed and lives in Zachary.

1962
Ruth-Anne Eileen Hoffstadt Hammons is a retired teacher, married and lives in Gretna.

1963
Martha Elaine Cotton Avegno is retired and lives in Baton Rouge.

1965
Ragan Daniel Gantt is the owner of Ragan Gantt & Associates, CPA's, married and lives in Miami, Fla.

1968
Jerry Robbins is retired, married and lives in Tampa, Fla

Annette Renee Wallace Cherwa is a retired teacher, married and lives in Virginia Beach, Va.

Harold Dwayne Fuqua is retired, married and lives in Orange, Texas.

1969
Donald M. Mayeaux is an engineer staff specialist at Lockheed Martin Aeronautics Co, married and lives in Fort Worth.

Thomas R. Nolde is employed by Gene Koury Auto Sales & Finance as the head of collections, married and lives in Leesville.

1971
George C. Thompson retired, married to Mary D. Thompson ('52) and lives in Leesville.

Joan Tallent is a registered nurse and lives in Jacksonville, Ark.

Helen Virginia Creed Deville is the director of student services at Louisiana Technical College-Northwest, married to Billy Michael Deville ('79) and lives in Haughton.

1972
Mamie Dell Small Bush is a guidance counselor at Logansport High School, married and lives in Shreveport.

Charles William Boudreau is a lead teacher and mentor at Vista Health, married and lives in Fayetteville, Ark.

1974
Linda Marie Voss Savell is employed by Bossier Parish School Board as an assistant principal, married and lives in Shreveport.

1975
Anthony Pierce Robinson is employed by East Texas Baptist University and Wiley College married to Wanda Robinson ('77) and lives in Marshall, Texas.

1980
Dana R. English is a child welfare specialist IV supervisor and lives in Mansfield.

1981
Glinda M. Doucet is a retired teacher and lives in Bunkie.

1982
Royce Ann G. Dillard is employed Community Trust Bank, married and lives in Simsboro.

1987
Melanie Ann Lea Birck is an assistant professor at Bossier Parish Community College and lives in Shreveport.

1992
Carletta Danene Anthony Jones is a fourth grade teacher at Natchitoches Magnet School, married and lives in Natchitoches.

1994
Debra Ann Monette LaCour is a staff nurse, married and lives in Natchitoches.

1996
Rev. Thomas H. Worsham IV is the minister to students at First Baptist Church-Minden and lives in Minden.

Gwendolyn Rose Savoy George is the nurse practitioner faculty coordinator at Loyola University-New Orleans, married and lives in River Ridge.

Clarence Steven Matthews is employed by Prudential/ Primerica, married and lives in Laplace.

1999
Harlan A. Diggs is a staff nurse at Sebastian River Medical Center and lives in Vero Beach, Fla.

2000
Mark Joseph Ferguson is a graduate, teaching assistant, PhD student at the University of Alabama, married and lives in Tuscaloosa, Ala.

2002
Kylie D. Amato is the assistant director Academic Athletic Support at Florida State University and lives in Tallahassee, Fla.

Lori Miller VanRoeyen is a dental hygiene student at LSU Health Sciences, married and lives in New Orleans.

2005
Sarah Jessica Rhodes Smith is an actor, singer and lives in Las Vegas.

Jason Douglas Hilton is a fire marker at Cubic Applications, Inc., married and lives in Hornbeck.

Tricia Michelle Patterson Sawyer is an accounting supervisor at B. Blakeney and Associates, married and lives in Leesville.

2006
Tangela Smith Maxwell is a substance abuse counselor and facilitator at Winn Correctional Center, married and lives in Coushatta.

Robert R. Manshack is a registered nurse at Willis Knighton Medical Center and lives in Shreveport.

2007
Melissa Kay Stout Clark is a substitute teacher for Beauregard Parish School Board and lives in Singer.

Ashley Danielle Briley is employed by Manpower as a manager and lives in Calhoun.

Hattie "Tammy" Procell Self is a registered nurse, married and lives in Shreveport.

In Memory

1939 - Marie Cole Meadows, Merryville, February 1, 2009

1939 - Mary Dupuis, Opelousas, February 27, 2009

1939 - Bill F. Hamilton, Ruston, March 29, 2009

1940 – Angie Ballard Skelton Henson, June 30, 2009, Baton Rouge

1949 - Roy Kunce, Shreveport, January 26, 2009

1950 – Patricia H. Dennis, May 19, 2009, Natchitoches

1950 – Wynell Peavy Crews, July 2009, Natchitoches

1950 – Colonel Horace A. Corley, June 9, 2009

1950 - Buford James Bruce, May 15, 2009

1951 – Melvin Hershal Shaw, July 16, 2009, Grand Lake

1951 – Eleanor Claire McGee

1953 - Virginia Yvonne Jenkins Phillips, January, 22, 2008

1954 - Hazel Ramsey Canedo, New Orleans, January 27, 2009

1955 - Fleming A. Thomas, Natchitoches, Aug. 8, 2009

1959 - Howard R. French, Bossier City, April 30, 2009

1967 - Bobby D. Land, Montgomery, LA, May 28, 2009

1975 – John Randall Brossette, April 2008

1975 - Roger D. Jennings, April 28, 2009

1977 – Billy David Rowell, June 5, 2009, Goldonna

1979 – Curtis John Cantrell Jr., July 27, 2009, Temple, Texas

1985, 1986 – Sharon E. Sampite, July 5, 2009, Natchitoches

1986 – James Kenneth Hart, May 12, 2009, Missouri

1990 – Linda Aymond Roberts, July 28, 2009, Kolin

1991 - Sally Metcalf Borders, June 18, 2009, Memphis, Tenn.

1992 - Patti Nevills Blueitt

1995 - Gregory William Bates - Sept. 17, 2006

C. Emery Williams, M.D., June 29, 2009, Asheville, N.C.

Betty C. Walmsley, November 14, 2008

John Edgar, October 6, 2008

Alumni Profile

After 20 years of research and seven trips to Liverpool, England, to conduct interviews, **Judy Southerland Kessler** (1974) has published a historical novel on the life of Beatle, singer/composer John Lennon. The 800-page book, *Shoulda Been There*, traces Lennon's life from his birth in 1940 through the formation of The Beatles, their early tours of Scotland and Hamburg, Germany, and their discovery by manager Brian Epstein in 1961. The first of a five-book series, Shoulda Been there gives readers the experience of actually witnessing Lennon's tragic childhood, devastating teen years and emergence of a resolute young man determined to show the world his value.

"This book is not just for Beatles fans," Kessler explained. "It is the story of a lost little boy and an angry teen whose family experiences left him scarred for life. It's the story of how important parents are in the life of a child."

Kessler is the daughter of Dr. Tom Paul and Maxine Southerland, who were extremely supportive of her work as an author. Dr. Southerland, an innovative educator and former vice president of Academic Affairs at NSU, encouraged Kessler to write from a very early age.

"He collected my first novellas and poems. When I was only 13, my parents published my childhood poetry into a volume called 'Memories from Grade School Years,'" she said. "They made be believe that I was destined to be a writer."

Kessler's mother, a home economics educator at NSU and later the director for the Center for the History of Education at NSU, imparted her love of books and history to Kessler.

"My mother read to me constantly as a child and helped me study for my exams at NSU. Having two educators as parents gave me the tenacity that made a 20-year research, writing and editing project possible," she said.

Kessler received two undergraduate degrees at NSU in history and English education.

"I couldn't decide which avenue I wanted to pursue so I did both. I wolfed down 177 credit hours in three years. Insane! But the education that I received at NSU was just amazing. When I went to the University of Maryland in 1974 to work on my master's degree, my fellow classmates and I were quizzed about which of us had read the 'Second Shepherd's Play' or the entire works of Spenser. Thanks to NSU's English department I was the only one who had."

Kessler's preparation for writing a footnoted, documented historical novel has paid off in spades, she said. The first edition sold out in eight months and a revised edition was printed. The second book includes more non-fiction documentation at the end of each chapter and a free one-hour interview CD with Allan Williams, the Beatles' first manager.

Kessler has appeared as guest author at the 35th annual Fest for Beatles Fans in New York and at conventions in Chicago, Las Vega and New Jersey and had speaking engagements and book signings in Philadelphia.

The sequel to "Shoulda Been There" will be out in October 2010. Entitled "Shivering Inside," the new work will take John and The Beatles from December 1961 through the birth of Beatlemania around the world and to the stage of the Ed Sullivan Show.

"Shoulda Been There" features not only the novel but an encyclopedia of Beatle-related people with biographies of each, a Scouse (Liverpudlian) glossary, an appendix of rare Beatle documents, photos of Liverpool from Kessler's trips and the interview CD. It is available for purchase at ontherocksbooks.com or thefestforbeatlesfans.com.

"Although I've been blessed to address conventions across the United States, nothing is more fulfilling to me than coming home to NSU and Natchitoches to share my life's work. I had my very first book signing at The Book Merchant and it was perfect. The people of Natchitoches taught me to work hard, write well and uphold the reputation of Harling, Saxon, Mignon and Hunter, great artists from Natchitoches who have gone before me."

Looking back

Northwestern marked its Diamond Jubilee, a celebration of 75 years, in 1959 with a look back at the school's history and accomplishments since its founding in 1884. Linking the past to the present in Northwestern's Diamond Jubilee Year were, from left, Miss Eve Mouton, Mrs. Ora Watson and Mrs. John Kyser, pictured in the costume of yesterday. Dressed in accord with contemporary fashion were Jo Ann Joffrion, Miss Potpourri; Mary Ferguson, Miss Northwestern State College, and Virginia Atkinson, 2nd place beauty.

Guess Who?

Spirits were high at Northwestern's 101st Homecoming in 1985. Even a live television broadcast of NSU's 45-21 loss to Northeast couldn't dampen the spirits of the 11,000 students, friends and alumni who attended the Saturday night football game. Can you name the lovelies who reigned over NSU's Homecoming court? The first five readers to call the Alumni Office (318) 357-4414 will win a prize.

Congratulations to readers who correctly identified members of the 1995 debate team. They were Jeremy Tulton, Buddy Hayes and James Roland.

Alumni Updates

Visit our website at www.northwesternalumni.com and click on "Update our files" or use this printed form.

Please fill this page out as completely as possible. We are constantly revising our records and your information updates are vital to making the system work. The information from this form is also used for entries in the "Alumni Updates" section. Please make a copy of this page and give it to any NSU graduate who may not be on our list. We can't keep in touch with you if we can't find you! Thank you.

Date_____

Name: (Miss, Mrs. Mr.)_____
Please Circle Last First Middle Maiden

Current address:_____

City:_____State:_____ Zip:_____

Phone:_____E-Mail:_____

NSU undergraduate degree(s):_____Year of graduation:_____

NSU graduate degree(s):_____Year of graduation:_____

During which years did you attend NSU?_____

Which organizations were you involved in while a student at NSU?_____

_____

_____

_____

Place of employment _____

Job title:_____Work phone:_____

Spouse's name:_____

Is your spouse an NSU graduate? ____Yes ____ No

If yes, what degree(s) did he / she earn?

Spouse's undergraduate degree (s) _____ Year of graduation_____

Spouse's graduate degree (s) _____ Year of graduation_____

Do you have children who are potential Northwestern students?
Please tell us their names, contact information, and what high school they attend.

_____

_____

Please return to: Alumni Center • Northwestern State University • Natchitoches, LA 71497

If you would like information from Admissions, Financial Aid or the NSU Athletic Association, you can contact them at the following address:

University Recruiting
South Hall
Natchitoches, LA 71497
(318) 357-4503 or 800-327-1903
www.nsula.edu/enrollmentservices/recruiting

Financial Aid
Room 109, Roy Hall
Natchitoches, LA 71497
(318) 357-5961
www.nsula.edu/financialaid

Athletic Director
Room 101C,Athletic Fieldhouse
Natchitoches, LA 71497
(318) 357-5251
www.nsudemons.com

Northwestern State University
Alumni Columns
Natchitoches, LA 71497-0002

Periodicals
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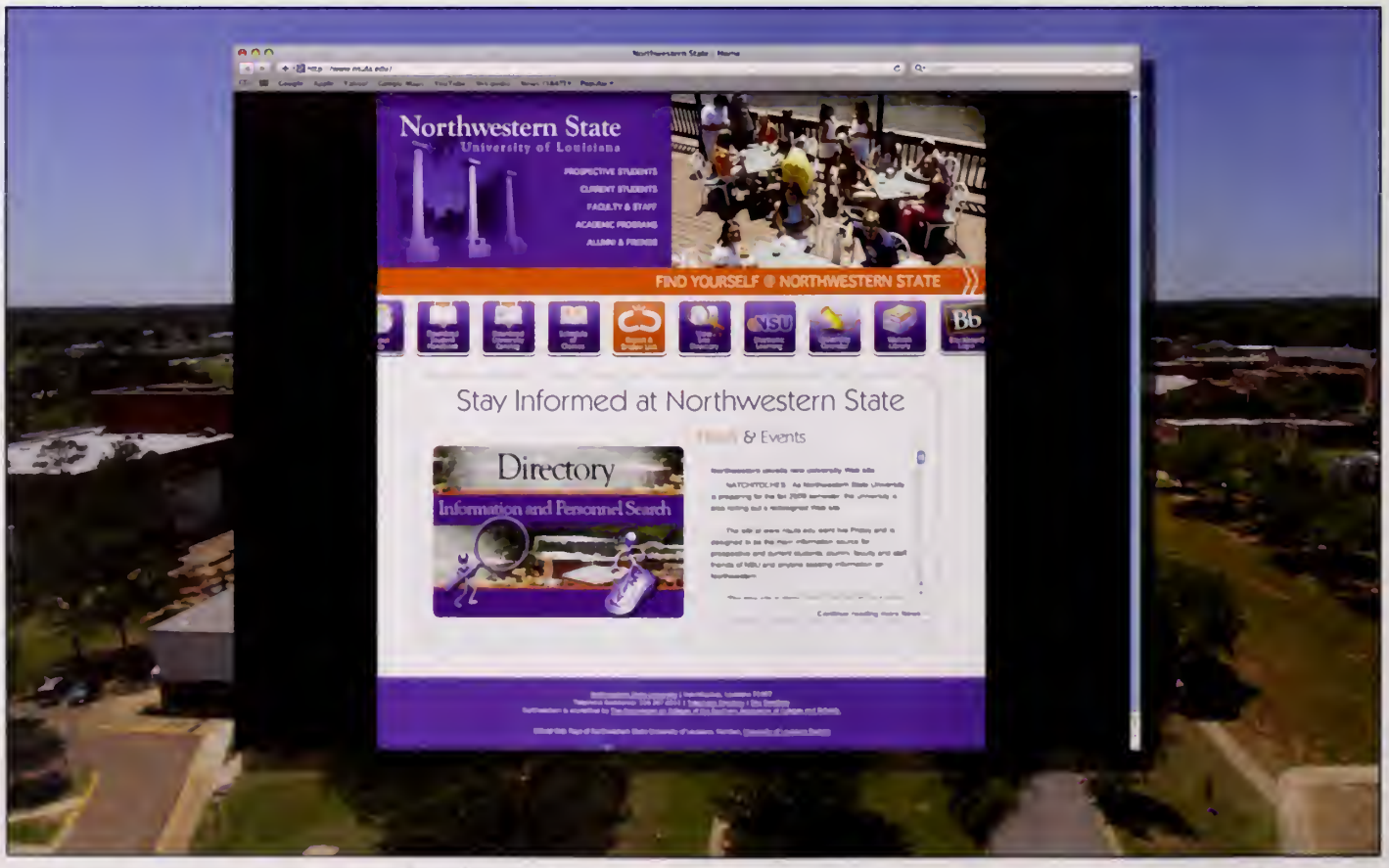
NSU launches updated, user-friendly website



Northwestern rolled out a redesigned website just prior to the start of the Fall 2009 semester. The site at www.nsula.edu went live July 31 and is designed to be the main information source for prospective and current students, alumni, faculty and staff, friends of NSU and anyone seeking information on Northwestern.